



# **MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN**

## **CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, May 24, 2011

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT  
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### **Menominee Nation mourns the loss of Reverend David Kiefer.**

(Keshena, WI) – The Menominee Nation mourns the passing of our beloved Spiritual Leader, Rev. David Kiefer. After a courageous battle with cancer, Rev. Kiefer began his spiritual journey on May 21, 2011. We, the Menominee Indian Tribe, were privileged to receive and welcome Rev. Dave Kiefer as our priest at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Neopit, Wisconsin, on Aug. 1, 1991. "Father Dave" Kiefer, as he was known to the Menominee People, blessed the Tribe with his faithful service and steadfast commitment for the past 19 years.

Father Kiefer has been a constant source of strength and guidance for so many families and members of the Menominee Nation. He was thought of as more than the just the priest of St. Anthony's Catholic Church, he was a part of what we Menominee call, Netaenawemakanak, "all my relatives." Father Kiefer was known for his compassion, sound judgment, and awe-inspiring humility; he turned no one away, whether it was a time of need or just a time to laugh and share. He counseled, consoled, humored, and shared his life with countless people of our Menominee Nation and we are eternally grateful.

The imprint of Father Kiefer's life will remain in permanency within the Menominee Nation. He was known for his gentle nature during times of consolation and taught many how to grieve. Now the difficult task lies ahead for our people, his family, and countless friends to grieve the loss of such an influential man. Even though we will struggle to come to terms with this loss, it is a time to remember and celebrate the life, lessons, and examples that Father Kiefer inspired in us all. He has been called home, but will always be a part of the Menominee Nation.

Viewing will occur at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Neopit, WI. A parish wake service will follow at 7:30 p.m. **Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 26, 2011, at the Menominee Tribal School gymnasium, Neopit, Wisc., with Bishop, David L. Ricken, officiating. Burial to follow at St. Anthony's Cemetery, Neopit, Wisc.**

"Maehkataehkoneyaew Tepet Apaenenih enes Omaeqnomenewak," Father Dave was always there for the Menominee people. We, the Menominee, offer our sincere condolences to his family. We extend our gratitude and appreciation to Father Kiefer's family for allowing him to be such a monumental part of our lives.

He chose the Land of the Menominee as his final resting place. We are honored.

For more information please contact Chairman Randal Chevalier at (715) 799-5114 or via email at [rchevalier@mitw.org](mailto:rchevalier@mitw.org)